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Burma

Grain and Feed

Rice Monthly Trade Report-September 2004

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Report Highlights:

Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading (MAPT), an agency of the Ministry of Commerce exported 22,897 metric tons of Ehmata 25 percent in September, including 6,100 mt of Ehmata 25 percent to North Korea.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Trade Report
Rangoon [BM1]
[BM]

MARKET SITUATION

Confirmed sources reported that floods affected about 900,000 acres of farmland by the end of August. The most affected crops were paddy, sesame and jute. Most of the affected paddy crop areas were replanted. The yields and the quality of most crops are forecast to drop because farmers have few or no means of capital to acquire good quality seeds and inputs for their crops.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation also reported that 15.1 million acres of the main wet season crop have been seeded against the original target of 14.7 million acres, and 0.53 percent of total growing area is being harvested.

TRADE

In the month of September 2004, a total of 22,897 mt of rice, 1,012 mt of broken rice and 1,380 mt of paddy were exported:

Bangladesh - a total of 16,797 mt of rice and 1,380 mt of paddy exported:

15,807 mt of Ehmata 25 percent
990 mt of Ehmata 25 percent*
1,380 mt of paddy*

North Korea - a total of 6,100 mt of rice exported:

6,100 mt of Ehmata 25 percent

Malaysia - a total of 1,012 mt of broken rice exported:

1,012 mt of broken rice A1 and A2

(*) Border Trade

Monthly Rice Exports

Monthly Rice Exports (Metric tons)	2003				2004			
	Rice			Paddy	Rice			Paddy
	Milled	Broken	Total		Milled	Broken	Total	
Jan.	16,841	14,844	31,325	0	5,857	0	5,857	0
Feb.	61,348	21,144	82,492	0	0	0	0	0
Mar.	80,976	943	81,919	0	0	0	0	0
Apr.	57,688	1,150	58,838	0	0	0	0	0
May	46,158	2,684	48,842	79	0	0	0	673
June	8,060	2,804	10,864	411	1,000	0	1,000	4,199
July	17,175	32,005	49,180	154	1,304	0	1,304	4,691
Aug.	330	2,344	2,674	1,315	17,510	0	17,510	2,487
Sept.	1,869	7,651	9,520	0	22,897	1,012	23,909	1,380
Oct.	3,111	2,137	5,248	0				
Nov.	1,448	3,537	4,985	0				
Dec.	7,402	4,269	11,671	0				
Total	302,406	95,512	397,918	1,959	48,568	1,012	49,580	13,430

SALES

There were no rice sales in September

National average domestic wholesale rice price (Kyat/kilo)

	Ehmata	Superior	Inferior
Current Month	150	193	97
Previous Month	113	185	106
One year ago	184	271	165

National average domestic wholesale paddy price (Kyat/ton)

	Ehmata	Superior
Current Month	90,088	145,000
Previous Month	65,740	143,653
One year ago	109,566	160,697

Average exchange rate: one US\$= Kyat 930

Paddy/rice prices in September increased from August except for inferior quality rice. A small amount of new crop (short maturity type) has entered the market. Nevertheless, prices for paddy/rice firmed in the domestic market. Prices for Ehmata rice increased by 33 percent and superior quality rice by 4 percent, respectively, but those for inferior quality rice decreased by 8 percent from August. Paddy prices also firmed in the districts due to strong demand for replanting seeds in flood-affected areas. Prices for Ehmata paddy in September also increased by 37 percent while those for superior quality paddy increased by one percent.

EXPORT PROSPECTS

Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading (MAPT), an agency under the Ministry of Commerce, exported its old stocks with the inclusion of yellows between 10 to 15 percent. Some of the main monsoon paddy crop, a short maturity variety, is being harvested and has started to trickle into the market. However, prices basically remain unchanged. The outcome of the major harvesting season that commences in the coming December will determine whether the government will lift the rice export ban. Most of the farmers replanted the main monsoon crops affected by the floods, but insufficient inputs will lead to lower yields. Confirmed sources estimated that yields would be about 0.94 tons per acre.

The Government has officially lifted the export ban on maize and sesame and private traders who have export licenses are now eligible to export.

End of Report